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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A printer has a host computer provided with a communications control unit for performing polling monitoring and sending control of print data and a control command to a printer. A print control unit generates the print data and the control command, and a command analysis unit analyzes the content of status information sent from the printer in response to sending of a status request command in the polling monitoring. An access interval alteration unit alters the interval at which the status request command is sent to the printer based on the result of the polling monitoring by the communications control unit. printer is provided with a communications control unit for supporting bi-directional communications with the host computer, a status control unit for controlling generation of printer status information in response to the status request command that is sent accompanying execution of the polling monitoring by the host computer, a print data analysis unit for analyzing the print data, and a print execution unit for executing printing based on the analyzed print data.